

Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** studies indicate that as many as one in five Louisiana adults reads below a 5th grade level; and
- WHEREAS,** Louisiana traditionally ranks at the bottom of national lists for education levels and poverty, two key indicators of literacy problems; and
- WHEREAS,** people who have not completed their education and read below level are more likely to have problems attaining employment; and
- WHEREAS,** statewide, 40 percent of entering high-school freshman will not stay in school to graduation; and
- WHEREAS,** literacy is often a generational problem, with the children of parents who have their own educational problems, and adult education and literacy instruction can help curb this cycle; and
- WHEREAS,** statewide, 46 percent of prison inmates lack a GED or High School education and studies show that greater emphasis on adult and continuing education can reduce a person's likelihood of being incarcerated or going to prison again; and
- WHEREAS,** numerous state and local groups are dedicated to helping our citizens achieve their personal, work and family goals by teaching them the basic literacy skills they need to complete their education, increase their workplace skills and strengthen their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim September 2006, as

LITERACY MONTH

In the State of Louisiana and encourage all citizens to help spread the message that there are educational opportunities available and that there are many state and local organizations ready to help those who wish to continue their education.

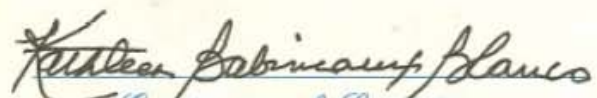


Attest By
The Governor



Secretary of State

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set
my hand officially and caused to be affixed the
Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the
Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this
the 15th day of August
A.D., 2006



Governor of Louisiana